



GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWSLETTER

OFFICE OF LT. GOVERNOR BARBARA O'BRIEN

VOLUME VII

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ISSUE III

Upcoming Dates

**Commission Meeting
(Conference Call)**
Friday,
September 10

**9/11 National Day
of Service and Remembrance**
Saturday,
September 11

**Colorado
Conference on
Volunteerism**
September 16-17
Fort Collins, CO

Commission Meeting
Friday, October 8
Location TBD

**State Service
Conference**
October 18-19
Estes Park, CO

**National Make A
Difference Day**
Saturday,
October 23

COLORADOANS VOLUNTEER ON THE 12TH ANNUAL COLORADO CARES DAY

On July 31st Coloradoans gathered across the state to participate in service projects marking the 12th Annual Colorado Cares Day. Colorado Cares Day celebrates Colorado's statehood, which was achieved on August 1, 1876.

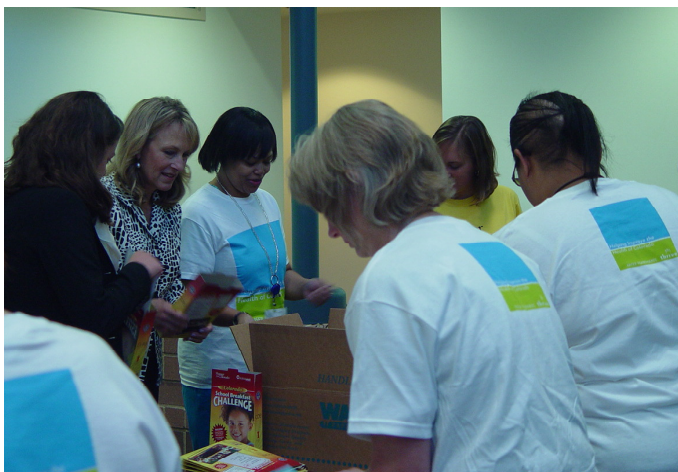
"I am proud of Colorado's tradition of celebrating our statehood through service," said Lt. Governor Barbara O'Brien. "During these tough economic times, it is more important than ever that Colorado residents work together and use volunteerism to help their communities and their neighbors."

In the spirit of Colorado Cares Day, 60 volunteer projects were held in more than 25 Colorado counties. Result and accomplishments are still being collected, but initial highlights include:

- New clothing collected for 245 Stedman Elementary School students in Denver
- More than 12 boxes of food delivered to the Walden Food Bank by CDOT employees in Jackson County
- Collection of 15 bags of trash and debris to clean-up the Sulphur Gulch Trail in Douglas County
- Planting of 9 fruit trees by the community garden group at Stonehocker Historic Park in Northglenn



A Groundwork Denver volunteer replaces a porch light bulb with an energy efficient compact fluorescent bulb



Lt. Governor Barbara O'Brien stuffs cereal box kits with Kaiser Permanente Employees



**GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON
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"BUILDING A CULTURE OF CITIZENSHIP, SERVICE, AND RESPONSIBILITY IN COLORADO"



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GOVERNOR



BARBARA O'BRIEN
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KATHRYN GRAY
AMERICORPS PROGRAM
SPECIALIST

JENNA STOCK
VOLUNTEER GENERATION
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

JANIS TULLIS
VISTA PROGRAM LEADER

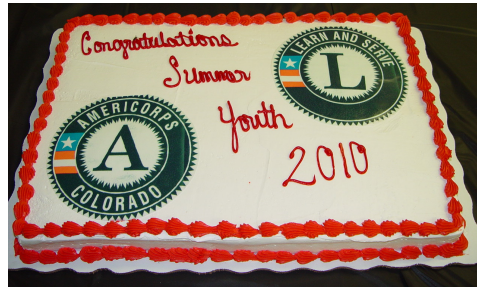
JACK O'DELL
DISABILITY AND INCLUSION
SPECIALIST

AMERICORPS PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: WELD COUNTY YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS



On Friday, August 6, the 2010 Weld County Youth Conservation Corps (WCYCC) recognized more than 100 students and staff with an end-of-summer award ceremony. The event honored project sponsors and highlighted the accomplishments of WCYCC's AmeriCorps, TIGHT, Learn and Serve, and Summer Youth programs.

Members of WCYCC's AmeriCorps program fulfilled their service commitments by working with both community individuals and organizations. Recently, WCYCC members could be found painting houses, relocating a Habitat for Humanity store, removing invasive plant species, planting native vegetation, performing general maintenance projects, restoring a replica fort, and having a good time (while serving, of course) at the annual Greeley Stampede!



An additional component of WCYCC's AmeriCorps program includes a member whose time and efforts are devoted to

providing environmental education opportunities to the various crews. The ultimate goal of the Environmental Education Coordinator is to instill in fellow Corps members a sense of respect for and desire to preserve the community's natural resources, both now and in the future. Throughout their service terms, members studied the natural and legal history of water, as well as its past- and present-day importance in Weld County.



Through its broad range of corps-based programs, WCYCC offers service opportunities to youth ranging from sixth grade to age 24. Additional information, including WCYCC newsletters, may be found on Weld County's website (www.co.weld.co.us) under "Youth Services."



GCCS ANNOUNCES 2010-2011 AMERICORPS STATE GRANTEES

The Governor's Commission on Community Service is pleased to announce the 18 program recipients of its AmeriCorps*State Grants for the 2010-2011 program year. Total funding of the grants is \$4,012,125, which will support the recruitment, training and the deployment of 688 AmeriCorps members. Three categories of programs were funded. Program Operating Grants and Education Award Grants will enable organizations to host AmeriCorps*State members for the upcoming year (see box to the right for the list of grantees). Additionally, four Volunteer Generation Planning Grants were awarded; these grants will allow the recipient organizations a chance to prepare themselves to host a future AmeriCorps*State program.

Volunteer Generation Planning Grant recipients and program goals:

- Colorado Nonprofit Development Center, \$50,000**
 Program Focus: Plan and develop an AmeriCorps program to support Boomers Leading Change in Health, a health navigator program designed to increase volunteerism in adults over age 55. The program seeks to improve the quality of health care in the seven-county metro Denver area.
- Metro Volunteers on behalf of the Colorado Volunteer Center Network, \$49,999**
 Program Focus: Establishment of a financially sustainable membership structure for the Colorado Volunteer Center Network (CVCN), a statewide technical assistance and professional development training program to volunteer centers, a repository for shared materials, a statewide messaging campaign, and a plan to utilize AmeriCorps members in the execution of the work.
- Metro Volunteers - Capacity Building, \$49,999**
 Program Focus: Plan and develop an AmeriCorps program that would support the professional growth and leadership development of community agency staff as well as volunteer center organization staff, develop strategies to utilized a centralized information technology system, and expand innovative and special projects that enhance volunteer program offerings.
- United Way of Larimer County, \$18,597**
 Program Focus: Develop an AmeriCorps program that would support the northern Colorado nonprofit community and expand capacity for local nonprofits that address poverty and barriers to self-sufficiency. The program will also generate new community volunteers at the partnering agencies.

The Governor's Commission on Community Service operates on a three-year grant cycle. The 2010-2011 grant recipients are receiving Year Two funding. A new NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) will be release during the Summer, 2011. New applications and recompetes will be due in the Fall of 2011, with awards made during the Summer of 2012.

2010-2011 Colorado AmeriCorps*State Programs

Program Operating Grant Recipients:

Advocates for Young Adults
\$142,112 21 AmeriCorps Members

Board of Weld County Commissioners
\$188,852 30 AmeriCorps Members

Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County
\$312,000 25 AmeriCorps Members

**City and County of Denver,
Denver Dept. of Human Services**
\$259,999 20 AmeriCorps Members

Colorado Parent and Child Foundation
\$279,500 43 AmeriCorps Members

**Community Foundation Serving
Southwest Colorado**
\$140,000 11 AmeriCorps Members

Denver Public Schools
\$496,314 98 AmeriCorps Members

Mesa State College
\$325,000 38 AmeriCorps Members

Mile High Youth Corps
\$736,280 158 AmeriCorps Members

Partners in Routt County
\$91,775 7 AmeriCorps Members

Pueblo Community College
\$189,706 26 AmeriCorps Members

**Southern Ute Community Action
Program, Inc.**
\$156,000 12 AmeriCorps Members

Education Award Only Grant Recipients:

Colorado Youth Corps Association
\$41,568 187 AmeriCorps Members

United Methodist Church of Center
\$2,496 12 AmeriCorps Members

ICC LET'S READ. LET'S MOVE.



InterCorps Council Colorado (ICC), the Corporation for National and Community Service Colorado State Office, and Reach Out and Read Colorado are collaborating to encourage Coloradoans to organize book drives in their local communities. In coordination with Colorado Cares Day 2010 and United We Serve. This summer long project has been titled:

ICC Let's Read. Let's Move.

Reach Out and Read Colorado has been chosen as a partner to receive the donations from *ICC Let's Read Let's Move*. Reach Out and Read Colorado's target audience is children ages 6 months to 5 years and their families. *ICC Let's Read Let's Move* participants are encouraged to donate qualifying children's books to one of the 146 Reach Out and Read Colorado locations in 46 counties throughout the state.

Although Reach Out and Read Colorado is the main partner for *ICC Let's Read Let's Move*, donations are not limited to children's books and all donations are welcome!

ICC's goal is to collect 5,001 books from July through October 2010. For more details and to get involved please visit: <http://intercorpscouncilcolorado.weebly.com/icc-lets-read-lets-move.html>

Colorado State VISTA Program: Comings and Goings

Site:

Adventist Community Services
Governor's Commission on Community Service
Metro Volunteers
Pueblo City and County Health Department
United Way of Larimer County

New VISTA Member(s):

Jill Charles (second term)
Jack O'Dell & Janis Tullis
Sheila Martell
Danielle Sager
Eric DeLuca

Exiting VISTA Members:

Kelly Hiznay

Jade Thomas
Rachel Chambers

COMMISSIONER SPOTLIGHT



Tom D. Muniz, Business Development Associate, City and County of Denver Office of Economic Development Workforce Development, was appointed in early 2010 to serve as a Community Service representative to the Commission.

Tom serves Colorado not only as a GCCS Commission member but also as Chair-elect of the Colorado Advisory Council for Persons with Disabilities. Previously, Tom served as the state coordinator for Colorado Disability Mentoring Day. If you haven't guessed, Tom has a passion for helping people with disabilities reach their full potential in life, work and their communities. Tom wants people with disabilities to see the value they bring to society as volunteers and service members - it was this vision that attracted him to GCCS. He is a strong believer that community service and volunteerism bring value to communities and to those that serve (including people with disabilities)!

Tom describes himself as a serial community server. He has served the Colorado community in various capacities, such as community boards and taskforces. Currently, Tom sits on the Island Grove Regional Park Advisory Board and is Board President for the community-based advocacy group Access and Ability. Previously, Tom has worked in various capacities for the disability employment policy group, Colorado WIN Partners/JFK Partners at the University of Colorado and Health Sciences Center. Tom has more than 20 years experience working with people with disabilities, which includes 15 years as a sign language interpreter. Tom is a Colorado native and lives in Greeley with his wife and 8 children.

SEPTEMBER 11TH NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE

Last year, September 11th was officially established as a National Day of Service and Remembrance. Throughout the country individuals and groups are encouraged to take part in service activities to honor the heroes, victims, volunteers, and survivors of 9/11. This year will mark the 9th anniversary of 9/11/01 and service projects are expected to take place in all 50 states.

Whether as an individual, a group, or an organization, volunteering during the week of September 6-12 provides a chance to improve your local community and promote a sense of unity.

“Working together, we can usher in a new era in which volunteering and more service is a way of life for all Americans. Deriving strength from tragedy, we can write the next great chapter in our Nation's history and ensure that future generations continue to enjoy the promise of America.” - President Barack Obama.

To register a project, find an opportunity, or inquire about sponsorship opportunities please visit www.colorado.gov/gccs or call GCCS at 303-866-6426.

I REMEMBER. I SERVE.

9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance

SERVE.GOV

FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR

Dear Friends in Service,

As we say goodbye to summer and welcome fall, many State*AmeriCorps programs are doing the same –saying goodbye to their current members and welcoming in a new batch of AmeriCorps volunteers. While start dates may take place throughout the year, in our experience fall is one of the most popular times for AmeriCorps programs to bring on new members. For this reason the Governor's Commission on Community Service holds our annual State Service Conference during the fall.

This year's State Service Conference will take place October 18th and 19th in Estes Park, Colorado. The conference will gather around 400 AmeriCorps members together for two days of training, professional development, and workshops to prepare for their service. Individuals from AmeriCorps*State, AmeriCorps National, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC are able to connect, share experiences, and reinforce their AmeriCorps identity.

As a GCCS Commissioner I look forward to this conference each year and I cannot wait to meet this year's AmeriCorps members in Estes Park.

Sincerely,



Lindsay Morgan Tracy
Chair, Governor's Commission on Community Service



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

New faces at GCCS!

I am pleased to introduce you to several new Governor's Commission on Community Service staff members.

Kathryn Gray has joined the Commission as the new AmeriCorps Program Specialist. As such, she will work closely with grant recipients and program managers in the administration of the AmeriCorps*State Programs by providing training and technical assistance, community outreach, and general support. Kathryn also will work closely with Mark Skinner and Terri Jutzi to manage and coordinate the grant application and contracting processes for the AmeriCorps program operating grants and assist with program monitoring and evaluation. Kathryn is a 2-year AmeriCorps*State Alum, and many of you may know her as the former Program Director of the Adams 14 School District CARENET AmeriCorps program. Kathryn can be reached at 303-866-6013 or kathryn.gray@state.co.us.



New GCCS Faces: Front L to R: Jack O'Dell and Janis Tullis; Back L to R: Jenna Stock and Kathryn Gray

Jenna Stock recently joined the Commission as the Volunteer Generation Program Coordinator. Jenna will be responsible for developing special initiatives and programs that increase volunteerism and promote service strategies, which engage volunteers in meaningful roles. Jenna is also responsible for developing programs and partnerships with volunteer connector organizations and other nonprofit organizations in order to improve the volunteer connector infrastructure across the state. She will assist in capacity building, coordination, and technical assistance to support GCCS's volunteer generation program initiatives. Consistent with the Commission's "emphasis areas" the volunteer generation program will place special focus on increasing volunteerism among job seekers, veterans, and adults age 55 and older. Jenna can be reached at 303-866-6220 or jenna.stock@state.co.us.

In addition to the arrival of Kathryn and Jenna, two new VISTA members have joined the GCCS team.

John "Jack" O'Dell is the new VISTA Disability Awareness and Inclusion Specialist. His VISTA assignment includes building capacity in AmeriCorps*State programs to recruit and place individuals with disabilities as AmeriCorps members. Additionally, Jack will work to increase GCCS support for programs serving the disability community. Jack can be reached at 303-866-2119 or jack.odell@state.co.us.

Janis Tullis is the new Colorado State VISTA Leader. Janis is responsible for coordinating, monitoring, evaluating and reporting for VISTA program members serving in the Colorado State VISTA program. Prior to joining GCCS, Janis served as a VISTA member in the 55+ Employment Network in Casper, Wyoming. Janis can be reached at 303-866-6235 or janis.tullis@state.co.us.

Please join me in welcoming Kathryn, Jenna, Jack, and Janis to GCCS!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Toya M. Nelson".

Toya M. Nelson
Executive Director
Governor's Commission on Community Service